

GRAUSTARK

#250

1970BB, 1970BN, 1970BQ, 1971BG

23 October 1971

1970BQ

"Winter 1906"

ENGLAND WINS NEGOTIATED PEACE!

Following the "Fall 1906" moves and retreats, the following builds and removals were made:

ENGLAND (Beshara): Builds A Lon, A Edi, A Liv.

FRANCE (Tretick): Removes A Pie.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Mischel): Builds A Bud only.

TURKEY (Vest): Removes A Arm.

John Beshara, playing England, now has 16 units on the board, compared with 15 for all other players combined. He therefore is the winner of 1970BQ. He has promised to write a review of the game for a future issue.

The game's roster is:

1970BQ - John Boardman, Gamesmaster

E - John Beshara (won F06)

F - Buddy Tretick

G - Gary Jones (dro F05)

Hugh Anderson

I - Bruce Gletty

A - Blaine Mischel

R - Michael Childers (out S04)

T - Charles Vest

As always, the supply center chart shows the number of supply centers held by each power at the close of each game year. An asterisk represents a unit that for some reason was not built.

	00	01	02	03	04	05	06
E	3	5	5	8	11	17*	18**
F	3	4	5	2*	2	2	1
G	3	5	6	8*	7	1	1
I	3	5	4	4	3	3	2
A	3	4	4	5	7*	6	8*
R	4	5	5	2			
T	3	4	5	5	4	5	4

Bruce Gletty's subscription expires with this issue; Mike Childers and Chuck Vest have already extended their subscriptions to #274 and #267 respectively. Other players trade or are in other GRAUSTARK games.

1970BB

"Winter 1910-Spring 1911"

ITALY OCCUPIES 2 NEW SUPPLY CENTERS

Following the "Fall 1910" moves, Austria-Hungary built A Vie and France removed F Bre.

ENGLAND (Lasky): F Edi & F Liverpool hold.

FRANCE (Mischel): F North Atlantic S F Mid; F Mid S A Gas-Spa; A Gas-Spa; A Ruh-Mun; A Bur S A Ruh-Mun.

GERMANY (Isby): A Ber S A Kie; A Kie S A Ber.

ITALY (Comber): F Tyr-Tun; F Spa(s.c.) -Por; F Lvo-Spa(s.c.); A Mar-Gas; A Pie-Mar.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Nierenberg): F North Africa-Mid; F Iri S F North Africa-Mid; F Tri-Adr; F Con-Aeg; A Sev-Mos; A Ukr-War; A Sil S A Ukr-War; A Rum-Ukr; A Ser holds; A Vie-Gal; A Mun S A Vie-Gal; A Tyr & A Boh S A Mun.

RUSSIA (Shuldiner): A Liv S A Mos; A Mos S A War; A War S A Mos; A Pru S A War; F Eng S FRENCH F Mid; F Den-North Sea; F Hol S F Den-North Sea.

Underlined moves are not possible. The deadline for "Fall 1911" moves is 6 PM, MONDAY 1 NOVEMBER 1971.

STAND-BY PLAYERS WANTED!

In the last issue the play of postal Diplomacy game 1971BG began. This game presently has no stand-by players, and in case one of the present players fails to send moves we need alternates. Anyone who wants a stand-by position in this game should send \$5.50 to its Gamesmaster, John Beshara, Apt. 1021, 155 W. 68th St., New York, N. Y. 10023. If anyone fails to send in "Fall 1901" moves by the 1 November deadline, the standby will be asked to play. In this game deadlines are 4 weeks apart. Moves are published in alternate GRAUSTARKS as described in #249, p. 2.

TURKS TAKE VENICE!

"Fall 1907"

In GRAUSTARK #249, the English move F Lyo-Tyr was underlined. However, the written Italian moves "F Nap-Tyr; F Nap-Apu" are interpreted under the Diplomacy rules to mean that the Italian F Nap holds. It thus could not stand off the English move. Players were notified of this correction!

ENGLAND (H. Anderson): F Tyr S ITALIAN F Tun-Ion; A Bur-Mar; F Hol-Kie; F Hel-Den; F North Sea & F Ska S F Hel-Den; F Norwegian Sea-Norway.

FRANCE (Nierenberg): A Gas-Mar; A Pic S A Bel; A Bel & F Por hold.

ITALY (Model): A Ven holds; A Pie S ENGLISH A Bur-Mar; F Tun-Ion; F Nap S F Tun-Ion.

RUSSIA (Buchanan): A Norway & F Sev hold; F Bar & F St.P(n.c.) S A Norway; F Bal-Swe; F Den-Hel; A Ruh-Hol; A Kie S A Ruh-Hol; A Mun-Bur; A Tyr S TURKISH A Alb-Ven; A Vie S A Tyr; F Aeg S TURKISH F Eas-Ion.

TURKEY (Barents): F Ion-Apu; A Alb-Ven; F Adr C A Alb-Ven; F Bul(s.c.)-Gre; F Eas-Ion; A Ser-Alb; A Tri S A Alb-Ven.

Underlined moves are not possible. England retreats F Hol-Hel and Russia retreats F Den-Bal. Italy may retreat either A Ven-Tus or A Ven-Rom; the direction of this retreat should be sent in with the "Winter 1907" builds and removals, which may be made conditional on it. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Den, Edi, Liv, Lon, Mar. (5) RUSSIA: Ber, Bud, Hol, Kie, Mos, Mun, FRANCE: Bel, Bre, Par, Por, Spa. (5) Nor, Rum, St.P, Sev, Swe, Vie, War. ITALY: Nap, Rom, Tun. (3) (13)

TURKEY: Ank, Bul, Con, Gre, Ser, Smy, Tri, Ven. (8)

France, Turkey, and Russia may each build one new unit, Italy must remove one unit, and England must remove two. The deadline for these "Winter 1907" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 6 NOVEMBER 1971. Press releases are on p. 3.

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY

"We Germans do not know even at the present day who the devil was that sent the Jews to our Germany...They keep us Christians prisoners in our own land. They make us toil in the sweat of our brow and they live in luxury on the wealth we have created, and by their accursed books they hold us and our property in their power." - Martin Luther, Über die Juden und ihre Lügen, 1543.

"Boardman compares me with Luther! I consider it a compliment even if he intends it as an insult!" - Larry Peery, Veritas Vincit a Fini, 1971

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"Veritas Vincit...is an attempt to steal The Diplomacy Association from the man who has put so much time and energy into it." - John Boardman, GRAUSTARK #249

"Boardman is right about attempting to steal the DA from Beshara and give it to someone else." - Peery, op. cit.

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More inquiries about Diplomacy and GRAUSTARK are still coming in. The most recent are:

H. D. Jordan, 51817 W. 8 Mile Rd., Northville, Mich. 48167

Douglas K. Miller (the spelling of the surname is not too clear), 526 Vanderbilt Hall, 107 Ave. Louis Pasteur, Boston, Mass. 02115

Michael Willner, 3099 Br. 6th Street, Brooklyn, N. Y. 11235

It has just come to my attention that Games Research Inc., publishers of Diplomacy, is listing my address as "234 29th Street". It would be appreciated if other publishers would make note of this mistake so that as many new players as possible might be informed of it.

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"My name is Howard Hughes, and I've got a secret!"

HYDUNDERABAD: Bastya today broke Away from her brother, Pandit the Bandit, Leader of the Peristaltic Movement. She formed her own movement The Rerverse-Peristaltic Movement. "We don't want to be Like MJIX when the war is over, As Pandit will be. We are women and Ask for women rights. We are differnt, And will Act so."

At which A repcrtter Named Freddie II SANG out "BABY once you got it you'll Never Let it be."

ASSHEALA: Lorrie Lowly Leader of WLW (warm Loving wives) today said She would personally fill MJIX Order. "That is if the Maharajah Kamasutra IX will show, or tell me how to get up there. Or does he get up there? Any way with A cash payment I'll give him 5 extras?"

ASSHEALA: Abaonon Clazgajh is to be one of the 25 wives Lorrie say "He is the best wife A guy could hope for."

ISSMEAL-GAKA: Deep in the damp, dark, creepy, clawing, dingy, dirty, smelly carverns, which once was the Splendid Palace of Hasha, stands Hasha, protector of the weak, and exploiter of the female, cruching shamefully before the power of the Universe, The Crimson King.

We Left of hast time CK (As he is known to All his god buddies) was Humilating Hasha fur giving away turkey to the Lowest bidder, which happen to Have been the proud Monarch of the smallest state inside of the kurrbanga mts, Maharajah Kamasutra IX (know to the URRP ((which is unorganised Rodent Resistant Press)) AS MJIX, the every day, four letter, household word that we All use.)

As we join The Humbhed Hasha, juidey Lucy, P. C. 3, Aqualung and A cast of thousands, CK. was saying...

"Not only did you give it away you Let your #1 expart go on the endangered List. What am I going to do with you? My son you are here to go on A very important mission which may be impossible, which is why I call it MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE!! you are to track down the JOHN, meet him and kill him. for this you'll take Along your compaions & Aqualung, my friend, and This special mystic Key that will help you over come The John!"

"The John goes by many nanes and has many spies. This key will tell you Who to trust, and who not to trust. BURSITIS is just A Thing of the John, which tracks down all peoples, so be careful, and make sare you stay off the list of Sexie Saddle's 10 best Lay List."

(Where will this All end? Newer If I have Anything to say HB)

CARMELA (Unorganised Rodent Resistant Press): It is a well know fact That, Though English And all other written words are banned in turkey and surrounding oacupied areas, that the peeple of turkey cummacete better thum the whele world. They use bodily Language. It is Just that certain people haven't grasped this yet, because they are outsiders. (westerners, Anglo-Saxson's WASP's etc) This is the reason renders get grabbed messages out of Turkey. It is not the falt of your reciever but the fauelt is Along wetwork limes PLEASE (with Sugar on it) STAND BY.

HYDUNDERABAD (URRP): Now that another press service is using the initials cf the United Rabble Rousing Press, local stringer Spyros Preposterous has instructed his staff that despatches of the Unorganised Rodent Resistant Press shall be headed "Rodent".

HYDUDERABAD (Rodent): Reports of great birds over the country to day aroused Alarm. These birds carried people cn there backs. Landed then, and Them ate Them.

Maharajah Kamasatra Said "there A bird bain running This Show I bet."

HYDUDERABAD (Rodent): Pandit the Bandit, sayd. Thwt A whole company of his rebel farces where wipe out by Bird Droppings(?) As they were assulting the palace of the Maharajah.

ASSHEALA: Lorrie Lowly today Annouced thut she was to spread her Pownrs All over Europe far the other Powers to help here get her hubby balk.

ISSHEMAL-KEP: Rumar has it that Sexie Saddle & Bustyar are twin sisters.

HYDUNDERABAD (Rodent): Today Maharajah Kama Sutra pettion The john, the United Rabble Rousing Press of Brooklyn, and BURSITIS to straighten out The Relation mess that is coming out of turkey and to form this into a Who's Who of Turkey.

ST. PETERSBURG (6 Oct. 1907): Vladimir had Ivanoshka, the stupid teletype operator fired today. "Idiot," he said, "the message was 'Has BURSITIS been FOILED?'" In the meantime Bangs Leslie Tapscott remains at large.

HYDUNDERABAD (URRP): Pandit the Bandit claimed this his rebels had already stolen the "key" given to Hasha by the Crimson King. "Not only did we steal it," he said, "we smoked it."

THE RIP-OFF ROLL - II

This column is a regrettable necessity, made so by the fact that several Gamesmasters and/or publishers collect money for the adjudication and printing of postal Diplomacy games and then disappear without explanation or refund. New players and subscribers, of which GRAUSTARK has a great many these days, ought to be warned about these people.

Chief among them is Larry Peery, who claims that he is an official of The Diplomacy Association and is urging people to send him membership fees. In fact, he has no connection with TDA memberships. The \$1 fee should go to John Beshara, Apt. 1021, 155 W. 68th St., New York, N. Y. 10023. New players should also be warned of a Peery "questionnaire" in a recent issue of Walter Buchanan's Hoosier Archives, in which Peery claims that TDA memberships can be sent to either him or Beshara.

Furthermore, Peery has refused to admit that John Beshara, as Gamesmaster of 1971BG, has a right to withdraw this game from Peery's publication Peeryara (or maybe Xenogogic) on account of Peery's recent attack on Beshara. (See "The Exclusion Act" in GRAUSTARK #249, and "The Last Word" in this issue, for details.) He has refused to refund the money for this game, or for subscriptions to Peeryara made on the assumption that 1971BG would appear there.

The immediate and only cause of the vast purple tide of propaganda emanating from Peery is to get "revenge" on Beshara for refusing to loan Peery \$500. The argument around "Veritas Vincit", as this attack was called, should be kept to this fact. PEERY ATTACKED BESHARA BECAUSE BESHARA REFUSED TO LOAN HIM \$500. The whole controversy about VV begins and ends here. The related controversy about the legal aspect of the player-Gamesmaster relationship is Peery's attempt to justify his refusal to pay Beshara the 1971BG game fees.

This requires players to be cautious about dealing with the other Gamesmasters who have endorsed Peery's financial foolery. A man who approves of this action of Peery's may very well do the same thing himself. Accordingly, players should be careful about sending money to Exclusionist Gamesmasters, chief among which is Rod Walker (under his own name and as "Lenard Lakofka"). Walter Buchanan, who advertises back issues of Diplomacy 'zines for sale, is also an Exclusionist. So is Conrad von Metzke.

John McCallum has recently re-organized his Diplomacy publication and come out with the first issue of Pfennig-Halbpennig - which, unlikely as it sounds, is also named after a mythical country. In this first issue he lists much information of use to new players, including all the postal Diplomacy publications that presently have games open, with addresses and rates. And he also puts in a warning about Scott Hankin, who collected players' fees from the most prolific writers of press releases now active, on the promise that his 'zine would print them all. He collected the fees and vanished. Gary Jones, allegedly publisher of Diplogrok, did the same thing. I suppose it is worthy of note that both these rip-off artists were sponsored and promoted diligently by Rod Walker.

In the last issue, Chuck Vest complained that Jeff Key was not responding to inquiries about game fees paid. Mike Childers had this comment: "I know Jeff moderately well and it's not like him to abscond with the funds. Also, to the best of my knowledge all the games he was running have been turned over to other publishers - among them Eric Just. I would presume that this is where game fees have gone. Besides, Jeff, like myself, is very busy, and it might be some time before he gets around to answering your letter."

This was confirmed by Key's The Voice, Vol. V, #5, which arrived last week. This issue announced that The Voice would henceforth be published by Stan Wrobel, 7 Polish Village Blvd., Poland, Ohio 44514, at \$1.25 for 10 issues. (This price may rise after the change of management, Key warns.)

And, as they weren't mentioned above, it should be stated here that

(continued on p. 9)

THE LAST WORD

[It is with a great sense of relief that the Gamesmaster ends, in this issue of GRAUSTARK, the controversy over the attempt by Rod Walker and Larry Peery to take over The Diplomacy Association and drive John Beshara out of Diplomacy fandom. Once the letters here have been published, GRAUSTARK will have nothing more to do with the matter save for warnings to new players in "The Rip-Off Roll". Then we can get back to the serious business of having fun, playing Diplomacy, and publishing the latest despatches from the Four And A Half Kingdoms, Hydunderabad, and Freedonia.]

[As always, editorial comments are in square brackets. Letters are printed in the order that they work their way to the top of my desk. Dates are given where known.]

BRENTON VER PLOEG, #202, 520 Parker, San Francisco, Calif. 94118 (31 August): Peery tells me that he has changed the text of his (somewhat dull) "letter" to spice it up a bit. [This was later published under the incredible title of "Veritas Vincit".] It's true that I thought he could have made a stronger case, but if Walker is accurately quoting the new version when he says that Beshara is a "Hitler", then of course that gets into areas of rhetoric which I find distasteful.

Nevertheless, I adhere to my position in my [cover] letter [to VV], and would like to explain the reason to you. I think it's indicative that I am not writing John Beshara to explain why to him... John is... a man unto himself. Everything is black and white to him. I am either with him, or I am against him, think his practices abhorrent, and his manner uncouth...

John simply WAS doing the things that Peery claimed. The constant use of the third person in the Wazir, even where it seems stilted and out of place, is indicative. I KNOW that he will deem me a traitor, and will continue his current freeze of me, expanding it to totality.

(10 September): Until I received your card, I assumed that Peery must have sent his missive to you, first class, as one directly concerned. I see that he has not. Larry has, indeed, come up with a rather bitter letter, sent, apparently 3d class, to everyone he can think of. This letter is an attack on John and the Diplomacy Association under his direction. I guess it is not really an attack on TDA per se, and he makes suggestions at "improving" the organization, but the two are really indistinguishable.

Peery sent me the letter, in a different form, while I was in Vail. I have commented on that version, definitely taking Peery's side (with the disclaimer that much of what he said was immaterial), but this new version is something else again...

There are some changes in this new version of which I do not particularly approve. I think it accomplishes nothing to call John a "Hitler" or "Stalin". What nonsense. Worse, what melodramatic nonsense. However, this window dressing of added polemics, while it would have received negative comment from me in my "concurring opinion", does not really change my opinion: in light of what John led people to expect the DA would be, he has not fulfilled those goals. Note that I say "people", and make no reference to myself directly. I think that you will understand this in light of my general views on the subject.

I have, reluctantly, taken a stand against John because I could no longer keep silent in good conscience. But I am as much against Peery blurting out these personal, ad hominem attacks as I am against Walker doing so, or John. Or, for that matter, even yourself. (Though I do not agree that you have thrown the vindictiveness around with anything like the regularity that the other participants in this ordeal have.)

(16 September): I read in the latest GRAU [#247] that Peery was denied a \$500 loan by Beshara... The loan issue sounds somewhat reasonable. I have no reason to doubt its veracity, unless John is the only source, but it could well account for the primary motivation behind Peery's broadside. [John Beshara is not the only source. Peery is another. See his letter

in GRAUSTARK #249, quoted on p. 8] I may sometime scrape together an envelope and send along the rough draft that I received, in order to show you how much tamer the "Veritas Vincit" was when I first saw it. In fact, that was the copy to which I responded.

Some of the additions I react negatively to. Those parts which are quotations from John's letters are not very open to accusation, I suppose, and Walt had previously sent me copies anyway. But all the editorializing about dictators, and all the nonsense about trying to reform an organization which is 99% John's anyway, seems foolish to me. I also bridle at Paragraph 106, where he maintains that I allowed John's letters to me to be used in compiling this missive, yet it is plain in his listing of the source materials that the only letters from me are letters I sent to Walt. I did, incidentally, ask that they remain secret, but I guess a lot of those requests were violated in the compilation of the material. [To put it mildly.] I wonder why he felt compelled to mention my name. No-one has even SEEN my copies, and the most extensive quotations I have supplied from them are probably to you, not to Peery.

Just the same, I think the time has come to discard the DA as an organization, and reorganize it as Wazir, plus John's efforts to get others into the game. If he wants to present his point of view to them as they enter, that's fine with me. But I am unwilling to follow John's "orders" because I just don't care about organizations that much...

(23 September): The Birsan letter in the latest Peery thing does John serious damage, I think, and fulfills my expectation about what really happened. Even so, I did not expect it, and it's a real shock to see his letter in print like that!

[Yes, it is. John Beshara and I could never get him to write us about TDA business.]

John has, in my opinion, no authority or right whatsoever to suspend the game 1971BG. I did not realize until I read John's letter what this "legal" question in the latest Erehwon [#55] was all about. I thought that it was somewhat strange to be talking about it at that point, but now I understand the motivation. Well, from a legal point of view, I will tell you what I am going to tell him: it's great if you can prove it, but where are you going to bring the action? In California? How will you get jurisdiction over the other players and GM? In this case, in New York? In the federal courts on diversity of citizenship? Well, I might suggest that the cost of a game of Diplomacy is somewhat less than the \$10,000 minimum requirement stated in the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. Like so many other things in the law, it's an interesting question - but does anyone give a damn? There's no way to enforce a judgment, and no way to get jurisdiction over the parties. That makes the legal question immaterial. I am, however, morally committed to the proposition that the PLAYERS own the game, and not the GM. No matter what personal clashes the GM may have, or the publisher, I can see no rationalization for such drastic actions. Nobody around this dispute anymore seems to have a conception of subtlety. First the language of the Peery letter and now this. If John was at all cool, he would have carried on with Peeryara just as if nothing had happened and the moral and propaganda victory he would have won would have been very large. This action merely reinforces the opposition viewpoint, from John's perspective.

As for Larry refusing to resign, that is, as far as my philosophy goes, absurd. TDA is John's, to do with as he wishes, and Larry has no authority that I can see to resist removal. He's O-U-T.

[The Peery attack on John Beshara in VV, and his refusal to refund the 1971BG money, have a common demoninator. Peery wrote VV in a fit of pique because Beshara refused his request to "loan" him \$500. And Peery wrote his peculiar interpretation of the legal player-Gamesmaster relationship in Erehwon and Xenogogic because he wants to justify keeping the \$30 Beshara sent him to publish the results of 1971BG. In both cases.

Peery's line of argument is selected so that he can justify getting and/or keeping somebody else's money.

[Originally, John Beshara recruited the 7 players of 1971BG, charging them each \$5.50. Of this amount, Beshara would keep \$.50 for his own work and pass on the remaining \$5.00 to Larry Peery. For this amount, Peery would publish Peeryara, a Diplomacy 'zine edited by Beshara and carrying the adjudicated moves and press releases of 1971BG.

[When Peery opened fire on Beshara in VV, Beshara withdrew this game from Peery's publication and asked for his money back. Considering the manner in which Peery attacked him, making VV a revenge for Beshara's refusal to loan Peery \$500, Beshara was quite justified in doing this. In fact, there is a real reason for believing that Peery would not fulfill his part of this arrangement with Beshara. On the grounds of past performance, Peery could not have been trusted to bring out the publication carrying the moves of 1971BG. After all, Peery is now falsely claiming to be an official of The Diplomacy Association, and is telling people to send him membership money in that organization. Could he be trusted with other people's money? Beshara thought not.

[And this view is justified. Richard Miller asked Peery for his subscription money back, claiming that Peery was not publishing 1971BG as he (Miller) had originally understood. Peery flatly refused to do so. I had originally understood Miller to have been a player in 1971BG, and so stated in GRAUSTARK #249 before Beshara mailed me the actual player roll.

[If Peery has forgotten his obligations to the players in 1971BG, Beshara has not. The first moves of this game were published in GRAUSTARK #249. Henceforth 1971BG will proceed in the same way as 1968BD, 1969BW, and 1970BB. The moves will be sent to and adjudicated by Beshara, and published in GRAUSTARK - though at 4-week rather than 2-week intervals. For details see p. 2 of #249.

[Peery's interpretation of the player-Gamesmaster relationship implies that 7 players get together and then go out and hire a Gameemaster whose concept of the rules agrees with theirs. Very, very few postal Diplomacy games have actually proceeded in this fashion. GRAUSTARK games are run as I stated in #249, p. 9, commenting on Peery's notion. In fact, I do not take over games started and abandoned by other Gamesmasters without the consent of either the Gamesmaster (as with 1965F and 1966B, which went to GRAUSTARK when Conrad von Metzke had to abandon Costaguana temporarily) or by the consent or written resignation of all the active players (as with 1963B, rescued here after Dave McDaniel dropped out and stopped publishing RURITANIA).]

WALTER BUCHANAN, R. R. 3, Lebanon, Ind. 46052 (19 July): I can see your point about not wanting the membership list [of TDA] pubbed in Wazir #2 since it's so far along. Also I certainly don't want to overburden John Beshara as I know he's very busy and has done so much for TDA already.

How would you feel about the list being published in Hoosier Archives? It would make the info available and yet make it easier on John.

[VV was in preparation at the time this letter was written. Who knows how many additional people would have been subjected to its lies if this suggestion had been followed?]

BRENTON VER PLOEG (27 July): Walker has written me a little note telling me that he thinks Peery would be a pawn for Beshara, and asking me to vote against him [for membership on TDA's Board].

JOHN BESHARA, Apt. 1021, 155 W. 68th St., New York, N. Y. 10023 (26 July): Am informed by Jim Reilly he sent a check to Edi [Birsan] for his TDA membership in late June.

I therefore believe Edi probably has some more checks belonging to TDA. ...Buchanan is now making noises about wanting to publish our member-

This is
O At
P Great
E Intervals
R This
A Appears
T To
I Inflame
O Optic
N Nerves

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ship listing in Koonier Archives since there is no room for it in Wazir this issue. Buchanan already knows that 16 of the 40 or 41 publishers with whom he trades are NOT members of TDA. I see no purpose in providing them with our membership listing...

Sometime ago I offered to give a copy of the listing to the Board members on condition they keep it confidential. Since then Buchanan tells me he will keep it confidential only so long as the Board does not vote for publication...I am not going to be blackmailed into doing something which I feel is not in the best interests of our members, especially the new players.

[This, basically, is why TDA's membership list is not going to be made available to people who are trying to destroy it and drive the President of TDA out of Diplomacy fandom. Had the "VV" gang not tipped their hand on this matter several months ago, the list would have been published already. And it will be published when the accusations in VV have been retracted and there is no longer a danger of it being used for recruitment in a vendetta.]

LARRY PEERY, 816 24th St., San Diego, Calif. 92102 (14 Sept.): I will continue, in spite of any and all personal attacks on me by him, to demand ...John Beshara's removal as Chairman of the Board of TDA.

[And there you have it. See p. 4 for further information.]

BOB VAN ANDEL, 749 Thomas St. SE, Grand Rapids, Mich. 49503 (27 Sept.): I have not given uncritical acceptance to Veritas Vincit. I do agree with Peery that TDA as it is and as it was represented are two different things...My statement in Sacta #24 was only a final expression of reservations and doubts that had been gnawing for some time.

The fact of Peery's finances (real or imagined) will cast some doubt on his motives, but ad hominem attacks are not noted for longevity...There are certain facts that even the most heinous of Peery's motives can not erase. I am aware that the VV questionnaire was biased. I told Peery that.

...You can tell John Beshara that for the sake of the friendship in which his letters were sent they will remain confidential. I don't approve of printing of private correspondence without the permission of the author...VV is only just barely warranted in fact, probably unwarranted, but it has been done and I thought I would comment once.

JOSEPH SHULDINER, 1210 Stratford Ave., Bronx, N. Y. 10472 (4 May): GRAUSTARK is a superb magazine. It never fails to have stimulating articles on Diplomacy. At the same time it is infused with deep social and political concern. Therefore, it is with some regret that I must offer criticism in my first written communication to you.

The cause of my discontent is the Beshara-Walker exchange which you have been publishing [in #235-#237 prior to the writing of this letter, and in #238 & #239 afterwards]. Mr. Walker has not seen fit to allow any of Mr. Beshara's lucubrations to appear in his publication. Erehwon is Mr. Walker's private game preserve where the prey is first rendered defenseless and then shot at. Mr. Beshara has no exclusive hunting ground and must rely on whatever privileges you accord him.

You should not let this gross imbalance exist. I believe you are motivated by feelings of democracy and freedom of speech, but you can not hide behind your good intentions and do nothing. GRAUSTARK is Mr. Beshara's home base, so to speak. It owes him some loyalty. Therefore, you must rectify the existing situation. You can do this by either giving Mr. Beshara an exclusive status in GRAUSTARK similar to the one Mr. Walker enjoys in Erehwon, or more hopefully, you will use your influence and "diplomacy" to pressure Mr. Walker into opening his publication to all points of view. [Ha.] Such action would be in concert with the principles of justice maintained by GRAUSTARK.

BLAINE MISCHER, 270 Greenhaven Terrace, Tonawanda, N. Y. 14150 (undated, but about the time of the preceding letter): Knowing the high quality of GRAUSTARK, I was astonished to see in print such slanderous garbage as Rod

Walker's reply in reference to the Coastal Crawl (#236).

Difference of opinion is healthy for any publication, but allowing Walker's childish vengeance (for what reason I don't know - but that's irrelevant) to have a voice in the most respected of Postal Diplomacy magazines leaves me in total shock.

I hope such trash will not be published in the future.

RICHARD MILLER, 350 Central Park West, New York, N. Y. 10025 (24 April): As you know Walker blasted John several times in print before John said anything against him. His purpose, which is evident from his "Caveat" in Erehwon #43, is to attack TDA. His letter asking John to resign proves this. I personally know that John put up with a lot from Rod before responding. When he did answer, he did so privately. I found his restraint very surprising and, in fact, out of character.

I am sorry that you printed Walker's article [in #236], for several reasons. First, GRAUSTARK is John's home ground and it isn't right that Walker can hit John here but John cannot reply in Erehwon. Second, Walker's attack was irrelevant to John's article [in #235], which was simply an explanation of some of the implications of GRAUSTARK's rules. Third, Walker's attack forced John to write up a reply and I'm sure you know how much John works on anything he writes. This took his time away from TDA and the rest of his work on behalf of Diplomacy. It's one thing to undertake to write an article, another to have to defend it against any crackpot who wants to attack it.

The main point of all this is that you are going to be deluged with letters, articles, press releases, and voodoo incantations against John from Walker and his stooges. Since these people can print their stuff in Walker's zines or in their own, I feel that this stuff should not be included in GRAUSTARK. Let GRAUSTARK help those who have no other comparable place to defend themselves.

[Two other complaints about the tone of Walker's attacks on Beshara came in at about this time, but they were under DNQ's. So was Miller's until the VV attack caused him to withdraw it.]

JIM REILLY, c/o T. E. Reilly, USOM-M/GS, APO San Francisco, Calif. 96346 (10 Aug.): I'd like to protest the appearance on page 4 of GRAUSTARK #244 of some slanderous drivel written by one Dick Miller regarding Rod Walker. I marvel at Rod's restraint: he has confined himself to calling Miller Beshara's "chief toad" while Miller has been making sniggering references to Walker's sexual prowess. If that sort of trash is all Beshara's chief toad can say about Walker, then it proves that Beshara and Co. have no case in the current feud with Walker. I wish that Miller would come out from behind his façade of 12-year old mentality and argue the issues that separate him from Walker in an intelligent manner. In any case, I don't think such slander belongs in GRAUSTARK. No one is going to take it seriously, of course, but it's mean and spiteful, and we could all do without it, in my opinion.

[That's the problem when you enter in the middle. Reilly's subscription began with #244. Thus he missed "sniggering references to Beshara's sexual prowess" which were scattered liberally through Walker's press releases in GRAUSTARKs #237-239 and #242. Proverbs 26:5.]

THE RIP-OFF ROLL - II (continued from p. 4)

John McCallum's address is P. O. Box 52, Ralston, Alberta, and Eric Just's is P. O. Box 131, Paoli, Okla. 73074. Pfennig-Halbpennig is "100 pages for \$1.00" and the first issue had 20 pages.

As another piece of good news, 1969CJ is about to get going again after having been deserted by its last Gamesmaster. Either Wrobel or I will replace him shortly. For details write the game's present custodian (and player of Germany) Lee Childs, 14136 Hartsook St., Sherman Oaks, Calif. 91403. There may be room for one or two replacements or stand-bys.

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY

GRAUSTARK is happy to open trade relations with Terminus, published by Tony Pandin, 10406 Shaker Blvd., Cleveland, Ohio 44104. Pandin, although a newcomer to postal Diplomacy, is already famous for "Pandin's Paradox", an ingeniously constructed situation which, although extremely unlikely, is absolutely unresolvable under the rules of Diplomacy. (See GRAUSTARK #243, p. 8.) Terminus, like Bob van Andel's Saeta, is printed as a computer print-out; it is 10 issues for \$1.50. It is "compiled" (which presumably means "edited") by Rod Walker. It will be published "at irregular intervals until June, 1972 at which time publication will become more regular". The first issue carries rosters and supply center charts for postal Diplomacy games through 1965F. It is strictly an archival publication and does not referee games.

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There have been numerous subscription openings and renewals, and letters of inquiry, received here of late. Interested parties are:

Craig Besinque, c/o Lane Haywood, General Delivery, Princeton, B. C.

R. D. Christian Jr., 12905 "A" St., Omaha, Nebr. 68144

Jack Layh, RR #1, Box 399A, Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387

Doug Ryan, 155-52nd Ave., Lachine 610 Quebec

George Schelz, 9 Buffington Pl., Bronxville, N. Y. 10708

Francis D. Veninga, 5531 Ursula Lane, Dallas, Tex. 75229

Paul J. Wood, 24613 Harmon, St. Clair Shores, Mich. 48080

*

Sherry Heap, whose husband George passed away in August, is a GRAUSTARK reader of over 4 years' standing. She now receives a permanent complimentary subscription. Her address is 270 Milburn St., Rochester, N. Y. 14607.

*

GRAUSTARK, the oldest continuously published postal Diplomacy bulletin, is 8 issues for \$1.00 from John Boardman, 234 E. 19th St., Brooklyn, N. Y. 11226. A single sample copy is available upon request. Back issues are 10¢ each or 15 for \$1.00; available back issues are 71, 82, 87, 103, 106, 108-111, 114, 117-120, 123, 127-129, 131, 132, 137, 139, 140, 147, 148, 150, 167, 170, 171, 183, 191, 193, 195, 196, 198-200, 202-212, 215-217, 219, 221-225, 228-231, 237, 239-249. The number in the upper right corner of the address label is the number of the issue with which your subscription expires; "S" denotes a sample copy. This publication is not edited under the supervision of Bangs Leslie Tapscott.

GRAUSTARK #250

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